

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PORT A 02225 192121Z

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ACTION OPIC-06

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 AGR-10 TRSE-00

XMB-04 /038 W

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R 192106Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2716

UNCLAS PORT AU PRINCE 2225

DEPARTMENT PASS OPIC

EO 11652 N/A

TAGS: EFIN, HA

SUBJECT: HAITIAN EQUITIES, S.A. FEED MILL

REF: STATE 193623

1. GILBERT AND ALEX PASQUET HAVE GOOD BUSINESS REPUTATIONS. THEY OWN DOPASMAX, S.A., WHICH IMPORTS CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS, AND THEY WERE FORMERLY PART OWNERS OF SONAVESA, S.A., AN AUTOMOBILE IMPORTING CONCERN WHICH HANDLES BMW AND SIMCA IN HAITI. THE PASQUET BROTHERS HAVE SOLD THEIR INTEREST IN SONAVESA IN ORDER TO DEVOTE THEIR ENERGIES TO HAITIAN EQUITIES, S.A. BANK SOURCES STATE THAT THEY MEET THEIR OBLIGATIONS PROMPTLY. THE 7,500 TON PER YEAR PLANNED CAPACITY OF THE MILL IS MORE THAN ADEQUATE FOR FORSEEABLE DEMAND. GRAIN SUPPLY WOULD BE A PROBLEM, UNLESS IMPORTED.

2. AT LEAST 70 PERCENT OF THE POULTRY GROWN IN HAITI IS GROWN BY SUBSISTENCE FARMERS PREDOMINANTLY FOR HOME CONSUMPTION AND IS FED SCRAPS OR CORN.

3. THERE ARE 13 COMMERCIAL POULTRY FARMS PRODUCING ABOUT 800,000 BROILERS AND 25,000 LAYING HENS PER YEAR. THESE FARMS USE AN ESTIMATED 2,500 TONS OF IMPORTED FEED CONCENTRATE ANNUALLY.

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PAGE 02 PORT A 02225 192121Z

4. ABOUT 99,000 KILOS OF FROZEN POULTRY WERE IMPORTED BY HAITI IN FY 1974 PROVIDING POTENTIAL FOR EXPANSION IN THE LOCAL POOLTRY INDUSTRY.

5. THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL IMPACT OF THE PROJECT WOULD BE LIMITED BUT POSITIVE. THE EMBASSY SEES NO REASON NOT TO FINANCE AND INSURE THE PROJECT WHICH APPEARS TO COMPLEMENT THE PROJECT BEING PROMOTED BY THE AGRIBUSINESS COUNCIL.
ISHAM

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FINANCE, POULTRY, INDUSTRIAL PLANTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976PORTA02225
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760319-0250
From: PORT AU PRINCE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760838/aaaabgvf.tel
Line Count: 71
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION OPIC
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 193623
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 MAR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 MAR 2004 by ReddocGW>; APPROVED <21 JAN 2005 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: HAITIAN EQUITIES, S.A. FEED MILL
TAGS: EFIN, HA, OPIC, HAITIAN EQUITIES S A, (PASQUET, GILBERT), (PASQUET, ALEX)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006